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WINDY HILL GARDENS

"Peyton's Peerless Peonies"

GEORGE W. PEYTON, RAPIDAN, VA.

NOTES ON THE NEWER PEONIES SEASON 1932

These notes attempt only to give a personal opinion on such of the newer peonies as have come under my observation and they do not profess to be an oracle for good or for evil.

AUTEN'S PEONIES

Of the seventy-five, more or less, new peonies which have been put on the market in the past few years by Mr. Edward Auten, Jr., of Princeville, Ill., it has been the writer's misfortune only to have a very small number of them in his garden. Of those he has grown, only the following four varieties will be commented on.

ALASKA. An anemone flowered peony of good size, borne on strong stems. The color is of several shades of medium pink nicely blended. Rather a striking variety in the garden.

MISCHIEF. A beautiful light pink single borne on good stems, blooming late. Quite valuable in any garden for that reason and besides it is entitled to stand at the top on account of quality.

NIPPON BEAUTY. A late dark red Jap that stands up well, increases far better than most Japs, is a beautiful flower and worthy a place in every garden. When it can be purchased at a moderate price will be much sought after.

PRESTO. A very large upstanding red single that has some purple in it, but is nevertheless a very desirable flower.

THE ORIGINATIONS OF A. M. BRAND

All of those which have appeared in the last seven years up to 1932 are grown. Some I have not yet seen in good flower. As a whole I should say they are a remarkably fine lot.

BLANCHE KING. It is noted that this is one of the best exhibition peonies, winning many prizes at the various shows. Have had many notes from others of its beauty. It is a very distinctive dark pink. I am sorry that I have not seen it in good flower.

COMMANDER. A very sturdy, upright plant that bears immense blooms of a fairly good red. In spite of its lateness, it opens well with me. This is the chief value of this variety. It is about the biggest red I know.

ELLA CHRISTIANSEN. As this bloomed for me on a two-year plant, it was a very fine grower with splendid stems, very large flower of a good medium pink bloomed in late midseason. It is a fine flower.

FLANDERS FIELD. This has seemed to me to be one of the most brilliant red singles in my garden. It is a plant of good bearing and very distinctive.

HANSINA BRAND. I have not yet seen a very good bloom of this one, though from a small one it seems to have much of the beauty of Solange with more color. It is a good grower. I have been told by some who know all of the famous thirteen that this is the best. Others would not say so.

HAZEL KINNEY. Hydrangea pink. Another that I have yet to see in bloom. A nice grower not very tall.

KRINKLED WHITE. This is a very tall grower with flowers of medium large size, beautiful in form and color and very late for a single. I should say it deserved as high a rating in the late singles as Le Jour does among the earlier ones. It opens very pale pink and rapidly fades to pure white.

LAVERNE CHRISTMAN. A very late fine colored pink that I have only seen on small plants. It opened well for such a late one. I have great hopes that it will be a valuable addition to our sure openers among the lates.

MRS. A. M. BRAND. This is a magnificent variety when it opens, but as it is very late, it has opened badly for me generally. In 1931 it bloomed magnificently in my garden, though I was not privileged to see it. It is very fragrant. The plant is a splendid grower and increaser.

MRS. F. A. GOODRICH. This flower is said to be of Solange form, but a fine soft pink in color. It has not been my fortune to see its perfect bloom.

MRS. FRANK BEACH. This is a dwarf grower that bears very large flowers of white with a very decided yellowish cast. The impression it gave was that it was one of the very best things I had seen for a long time. Mr. Little thinks it one of the four greatest whites.

MRS. HARRIET GENTRY. I happened to have a plant of this which was four years old raised from a very small one eye root. The plant is medium height or under and has very large blooms that gave me the impression of being one of the very best in the garden. Its color is creamy white with the accent on the creamy.

MRS. JOHN M. KLEITSCH. This one has been growing in my garden for seven years and has proved itself to be a very vigorous grower with stems of great strength. It bears very large full flowers of a beautiful shade of lavender pink and has usually opened very well, though very late.

MRS. ROMAINE B. WARE. A very graceful dwarf grower, increases well, but I have not seen a mature bloom as yet. It is said to be smaller and daintier than any of the others.

MYRTLE GENTRY. This has grown well for me, makes excellent stems and quite large flowers of very light pink shading white which are very beautiful. It opens better than the majority of the late bloomers here.

MRS. DEANE FUNK. A nice light pink flower that is under medium height. A free bloomer that is quite pleasing.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE. This variety is a very late one in every way, yet it has opened well its flowers of good size and attractive light pink.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN. Tall and outstanding, this is as great a peony as Lincoln was among men. With two to three rows of great glorious red guard petals it ranks in my estimation as the perfect red single.

REVEREND H. TRAGITT. A sturdy dwarf grower whose bloom I do not yet know. It is noted with pleasure that it was among those frequently seen in the exhibits at Des Moines this year. (1932.)

VICTORY CHATEAU-THIERRY. A beautiful color, a beautiful flower, a beautiful plant. What more do we want? It is semi-double and light pink. One of the greatest of the lot.

OLESON

Three peonies have been put out by this man in the last few years.

JANES OLESON. Is a very good grower, upright and has seemed to have promise of being a good red, which are very scarce.

MAY OLESON. The most I can say now is that it bloomed quite a pretty light pink that may get better later on.

PETER OLESON, a red single that has not yet won a place with me among the best.

SASS

It has not been my privilege to grow or see any of the very latest Sass peonies, some of which I hear are very fine, but the first two put out have been in my garden a number of years.

FLORENCE MACBETH. This is very late and sometimes fails to open well its exquisitely beautiful blooms of pale pink shading deeper to the center and fading white. It is a plant of the best habit and the flower ranks among the best when it opens well.

GRACE BATSON. Probably opens better than the former, but is not so delicate a color. Bloom is to me on the spectacular order and of a near approach to the color that is so prominent among these spectacular blooms, namely a good medium dark pink. Possibly it is a little lighter than Jules Elie. It is late and strong growing.

SECOR

Of the peonies put out by this grower, I think I have nearly all, but many of them have not been observed very carefully by me. Some of them have as yet failed to make good. I shall comment on only the few that are well known to me.

NINA SECOR. I have grown this for about ten years. It makes good rapid growth, stems of fair height and rather bending. flowers very fine when it has opened for me, but usually refuses to do anything as it is late.

PURPLE CUP. A very fine red single that has splendid bearing and habit and excellent color. It should prove a find.

WINNEBAGO CHIEF. Even more so than the former, this seems to me to be one of the very best red singles I have in my garden and there are many. It is very tall and has excellent stems.

WETTENGEL

Mr. Wettengel has given us several peonies some of which I do not have. Some of them seem to me to have the makings of excellent peonies.

CLARA STOCKWELL. On a one year plant this made a remarkably big medium pink flower. The plant seems to be of rather dwarf growth.

LUCY DUNN. Good light pink flowers on excellent stems.

MARTHA V. LANE. A splendid plant that bears very excellent flowers of pink shaded white.

MARGARET VIERHELLER. A good upright grower with quite large flowers of a nice medium pink.

VORIES

Judge Vories has given us a number of peonies lately among which are some that are certainly of the best. While I do not know them all as I should like to I shall comment on a few:

ALEX. D. VORIES. This is a very large red of good color, stems rather bending.

FANNY LEE. Another red that will probably give a good account of itself.

FRANKIE CURTIS. This is a blush white bomb shaped peony that has already made itself famous. It well deserves its fame.

HENRY M. VORIES. A nice pink, borne on good stems that I look forward to knowing better.

LADY KATE. A late pink that has excellent carriage and blooms very well. It has a deservedly high place.

LAURA VORIES. A variety of excellent habit bearing flowers of blush white of very large size and remarkable beauty.

NANCY DOLMAN. A very tall plant that bears immense medium pink flowers that are very full and take a long time to open, but that do open remarkably well, though is quite late. I like it well.

ROBERT LEE DAVIS. A very excellent loose built light pink. It is rather low growing.

Judge Vories has put out in the past two years several new peonies two of which have been very favorably commented on to me by friends. Largo is a Japanese on the order of Tamate-Boku and gives promise of being a great peony. Mrs. R. M. Bacheller is mentioned as being a new white of splendid fragrance that will probably take its place as one of the best the Judge has put out.

GOOD AND REESE

This firm has put out ten new peonies in the last few years.

Of these the following have been observed by me:

DR. J. H. NEELEY. I have seen only one bloom of this and it was on a one year plant, but it was of such perfection that I have no doubt that it will prove to be one of the World's Best. In fact reports that have come to me from friends say it is certainly destined to be such.

JUDGE SNOOK. This is a flower quite similar to Cornelia Shaylor and a variety that is very promising.

FRANK E. GOOD. Only a small bloom has been seen. It had much of Solange's coloring and I am told is a better doer.

Among the others is one, Good's Gem, that is said to be the equal of Isami Jishi and very similar. Mrs. John M. Good is also said to be outstanding. I have this and hope I can report another year.

SHAYLOR

Mr. Shaylor's peonies have always been noted for their splendid

quality, the proportion of the best being above the ordinary. His partner, Mr. Allison, has put out three new ones in 1931.

Of these I have seen two as follows:

MRS. GEORGE RAWSON, a fine big light pink that fades lighter, a good bloomer and a fine flower.

NICK SHAYLOR. Mr. Allison tells me he thinks this the best flower they have ever sent out. If a first year performance may be used to judge from I should say his claims will be justified, for I have never seen a flower of better promise. It is very similar to Solange in form and color with more pink in it. However, it does not seem to burst its bud as Solange does and its stem is far superior. Its roots are clean and healthy. It opened for me as well as any peony in the garden in spite of its being very late. Let us hope that it will always perform as well. Its only fault is that it has no fragrance.

The third variety is Shaylor's Sunburst a Japanese type that is very much like Isami Jishi. May it prove to be as good and as beautiful.

There have been a number of new varieties introduced in the past year or two. Of these, few are in my garden. I have several of my friends, Dr. Neeley's, new ones of which we may expect great things. Especially promising are Mrs. J. H. Neeley, Garden Princess, Ward Welch, and New Delight.

I deem it a great misfortune that none of those of Mr. Franklin, Mr. Gumm, Mr. Auten and Mrs. Lewis have as yet found a way into my garden. I hope that at some day in the not far off future some of these may come in. At the Peony Show in Des Moines of the American Peony Society this year. Mr. Brand had a very fine new Jap which is very suggestively named Prairie Afire, which was one of the sensations of the show. Other outstanding new ones were Anna Sass, Elsa Sass, and Mr. Franklin's new red Jap. S. B. 1. Mr. Franklin has introduced a new red called Dixie which I hope will be worthy of its name and the same may also be said of Mr. Auten's new Monticello, a white single. We in the South at least would not be greatly pleased to have only ordinary peonies bear these names.

EUROPEAN PEONIES

Below will be found some comments on the newer varieties of European origin, but there is little added to what has been said before.

FRENCH ORIGIN

Dessert Seedlings Disseminated by Doriat

1922

ELISA. Similar in habit to Souvenir de Louis Bigot, bending stems, not very tall, loose built flower of pale pink shaded. Flowers well in midseason and is fine and attractive.

MADOLON. A medium height upright grower, with flowers of good size, quite a pure pink in color, darker than Walter Faxon. It blooms late and sometimes bursts its buds like Solange. It did not have that fault this year, but opened as well as any flower could and was very fine.

RITA. A late flower of very erect sturdy growth, medium height. Flowers very large and full, of a beautiful rose pink shading lighter to the center. A splendid show variety.

RABELAIS. A fine light pink single, of good size and color. Vigorous and worthy.

1924

CHARLOT. Very tall with slightly bending stems. Midseason. Large flowers with deep lilac pink centers shading to quite light on the edges. Very showy and greatly admired. Flowers well.

INSPECTEUR LAVERGNE. Flowers on the order of Felix Crousse, better red with some brown in their make up. Increases and blooms well in midseason. It seems that it is destined to be a great cut flower.

MADAME EDOUARD DORIAT. Tall and sturdy growing plant that bears in late midseason large white flowers with some red markings and showing some stamens. For some years it did not do very well for me, but this year it came back and bloomed excellently. It is quite attractive.

NANETTE. A medium height plant with good stems and fine foliage. Blooms early. Flowers similar to Phyllis Kelway in make up, but a very pale pink, beautifully shaded, that fades to white. As charming and attractive as Marie Jacquin with a little more color.

HENRI POTIN. A medium pink Jap of great beauty, center heavily tipped yellow. Excellent grower and bloomer.

1925

DIRECTEUR URSAT. A large flower of crown type, light pink guards and cream and yellow tinted collar. Blooms early midseason on a plant of under medium height. Worth while.

HENRI CORE. Quite late and tall, light pink, large full flower opening well. Good.

NINON. Very tall strong grower with medium large bloom of a peculiar shade of pink. It is a fine bloomer and was one of the best of the newer peonies this year. Midseason.

INSTITUTEUR DORIAT. Tall upright growing anemone form flower that we usually class as a Jap. Color splendid quite dark red, very brilliant. A late bloomer. The best red in its form and one of the top notchers.

JEANNE LAPANDRY. A large white Jap with long slender petaloids of light yellow. Nothing else quite like it. Well deserving a place in any garden.

1926

DENIS DEBATENE. A conical flower of medium size of several shades of dark pink. As it bloomed this year the flower was one of daintiness and beauty.

JEANNE ERNOULD. A very large single of medium height. Reddish pink fading to very much lighter sometimes to almost white. Very showy and one of the best singles.

1927

AVIATEUR LINDBERGH. A plant of medium height, good stems, with large loose flowers of a vivid shade of red with occasional white markings. The first year this bloomed I was disappointed, the second year it began to retrieve its reputation, the third year it was very fine, this year I did not have it large enough to bloom. It would seem that the mature plant bears flowers that deserve a good rank among the reds.

ELISE RENAULT. Very strong stems bearing spectacularly large globular flowers of a medium pink in early midseason. Good promise.

MADAME CLAUDE TAIN. Fine upright plant bearing large pale pink flowers like Baroness Schroeder and maybe just as good.

MADAME EMILE DEBATENE. A flower that resembles Souvenir de Louis Bigot but darker in color. A good bloomer and increaser.

LOUIS BARTHELOT. A late flowering white of spherical form of much beauty and promise.

VERDUN. Holds a place at the top as one of the two best red single peonies grown today in my garden. Medium height, splendid stems, very large glowing color, midseason.

1928

CHABANNE LA PALICE. A tall growing cherry red that may improve with better acquaintance.

JACQUES DORIAT. Rather dwarf dark pink Jap that is attractive.

JOSEPH PLAGNE. Medium height light red Jap that is as good as the average.

ODILE. When Dessert described this flower as Tourangelle brought to a point of perfection, he did not exaggerate. Similar in color, maybe a little lighter, fully as large, far better fragrance, splendid stems, excellent grower and profuse bloomer, there is little more that can be said.

1929

ARMANCE DESSERT. Silvery salmon pink. Midseason. All that I can now say is that this peony has a beautiful color and is a good grower.

EDOUARD DORIAT. Vivid salmon pink, late. I hope next year to be able to verify this and be able to add something else.

HUBERT DEGRIS. Purple lilac Jap with narrow yellow petaloids. This peony is a good grower and let us hope a good flower.

JACQUES DESSERT. Dark pink with amber white collar. Dessert said this was the largest peony known to date. Described as a variety with gigantic stems. It must have made such gigantic stems in France that it lost its vigor for the drought of 1930 nearly put it out of commission and as yet is a very poor specimen. Here's hoping that the giant will recover.

PROFESSEUR C. POTRAT. Cherry pink, tall. I can say that it is tall, but no more yet. Maybe another year will enable me to tell its story better.

The introductions of 1931 and 1932 are not yet in my garden. They follow:

INGENIEUR DORIAT. Large irregular carmine red, silvery border, strong stems.

GILBERT BARTHELOT. Enormous irregular silvery pink with a slaty tint, gold stamens.

RIGOLOTE. Crimson purple Jap, center tipped yellow. Caused a sensation in Paris.

ELIZABETH DESSERT. Dark red Jap, purple red center. Very ornamental.

MARGARET ELIOTT WAGGAMAN. Festiva maxima type white salmon toned tall stiff stems.

CHARLOTTE CORE. Pure white single.

COMTESSE DE MURAD. Silvery white single with purple reflex, very distinct.

RIVIERE

We should expect great things from the introducer of Philippe Rivoire but my short acquaintance with the following three new ones does not promise them:

SOUVENIR DE MADAME COLETTE VEILLET. Name enough to kill it. Similar to Madame Calot but so far not as good.

SOUVENIR DE L'EXPOSITION DE LONDRES. A red that so far does not seem to be a serious competitor to Philippe Rivoire.

VILLE DE LYON. A dark pink that I have yet to see in bloom.

LEMOINE

Lemoine never introduces peonies by the score. At most there are two or three a year and usually they will not average that. All his varieties can be counted on to be beautiful in flower when they come right, but it is a fact that they are rather difficult subjects as a general thing. They must get well established and out-grow their tendency to disease before we can judge of their true worth. It seems now that in a few years we shall have many of his most difficult varieties in good supply in healthy stock.

ALESIA. A massive white, late, fair stems, hard to open.

ALICE HARDING. So well known that it is hard to believe that it is only ten years since it was first introduced. A splendid peony in habit, foliage, stem and flower. Blush white fading to white. Not overrated.

ARGENTINE. A very late full white that as usual with these is hard to open. It has fine stems and good carriage. Some think it the finest peony Lemoine has sent out in a long time. It is fine, but not so dependable as we should like to see it.

BEAUMARCHAIS. The only thing I can say about this is that some years ago I recall a bloom on this peony that was a very beautiful thing. As a general thing it blooms so very late that it quits almost as soon as it starts to open, so there you are. Stems are not good. It is very pleasing pink in color.

DENISE. This is an exceptionally large flower very full, white with heavy red markings in the center. The stems are strong and upright. Has bloomed well for me and where a very large flower is wanted this will fill the bill. It is very scarce.

DULCINEE. In spite of its fascinating name, this peony has yet to employ its charms to win my approval in my garden. It has consistently refused to bloom. I now have some very fine looking plants and so I am hoping that when once again the season is propitious for the lates I shall be privileged to see its beautiful pink flowers.

ELIANE. This is rather a dwarf grower that once or twice has given me pretty good flowers of white. So far it has not shown as good quality as many others.

FAUSTINE. This flower is another of the pale pink lates that so far have never greeted me at any time with a bloom. We live in hopes.

GENEVIEVE. A very late blooming massive white on tall rather bending stems. This condescends occasionally to let me see its beauty. Enchanteresse Alesia and Genevieve are all peonies with the same characteristics and quite similar.

GILBERTE. A soft pink that has flowered for me, but so far I have not been awakened to great enthusiasm for it.

JOCELYN. Silvery lilac in color it is with me a very slow grower and while very beautiful in flower, it will not be admitted to full honors until it does better.

MADAME ESCARY. This is quite a tall grower and bears beautiful large white flowers which, when we get them in their prime, are hard to beat. On healthy stock it is very fine.

ODALISQUE. This peony has seemed to me more beautiful than almost any of the other later ones. It reminds me of a loosely built Le Cygne. It has that same symmetry and fine form and very similar color.

RUBICON. The summer of 1930 proved the Rubicon for this one and it was not on the winning side. I hope for better luck some other time. It is described as a deep rose.

SATIN ROSE. A nice name and an alluring one. We hope that on better acquaintance the peony will live up to it. It has been a tall grower.

SYLVIANE. A great feathery white of the largest size that impresses you very favorably when we can get it on plants without disease.

MILLET

MAMAN MILLET. Millet himself thinks this is a perfect peony. It is a very large loose pale pink that fades to white. Its color is better than Lady Alexandra Duff which it very much resembles in form. Its stems are fair. It has rather distinctive foliage. It has made occasional flowers ten inches in diameter. Personally I like the flower very much.

REINE BARONET. This is a medium size flower of a rather peculiar shade of dark pink. It is a very vigorous grower, bearing quantities of its attractive flowers. These are rather loosely built. It is a good landscape variety also. Its color does not appeal to all, but many think it very beautiful.

SOUVENIR DE A. MILLET. This is a very tall grower with rather bending stems. Its blooms are on the order of Karl Rosenfield and open in very much the same way. It is a very brilliant red and will probably be found ranking among the best reds in years to come.

MADemoiselle LOUISE DELATTRE. This was put out by Millet as a single and it is a single of much beauty. It blooms a nice shade of pale pink which fades to white. The flower is large and well borne. It is noted that some list this as a double. As imported from Millet it certainly is not and should not be so listed. It is listed erroneously in the Manual as a double.

MRS. HELEN ROOKER. This was put out at the same time as the former and is a little darker in color, but an equally good flower.

Millet has a habit of introducing as Japanese and giving them long Japanese names, peonies that are only, as we distinguish them, singles. The following are some of them:

DAIMIO. This bloomed a dark pink single. It is described as a tyrian red purple whatever that may be. It is nothing startling.

GO DAIGO. Described as light rose and bloomed so for me. Fair.

JAPPENSHA IKKU. I have had for a number of years. It is a very dependable red single of much beauty and value. It is a splendid grower and increaser and makes a fine show.

KAISAIKON is described a tyrian red Jap. It is semi-double of a fine red color, that does not have very good stems being rather sprawling. It is quite tall.

KIOTO is described a tyrian pink and I suppose is correct. This was not striking enough to be noted especially.

KOJIKI is described a tyrian red purple and it bloomed a very fine dark pink or light red single.

KATORI NAHIKO is a fine big dark pink single on the order of L'Etincelante and I have always thought just as good.

NIHONJI is a glorious big red single of very brilliant color that blooms very late. It was one of the last peonies to bloom this year. It is of great value for that reason. It is described as garnet red. The habit is excellent.

SAGOROMO is an excellent pink single that has always done well. It is not startling or spectacular, but for a good pink single it is all that could be desired.

Leaving France we shall enter Holland and take up first on the list:

VAN LEEUWEN

GENERAL GORGAS. This is a very fine big white with rather heavy red markings on the center petals. This year it was really spectacular in size and bearing and was one of the most noticeable things in the garden. It is tall, with good strong stems and the flower is quite fine.

JAN VAN LEEUWEN. This is put out as a white Jap as fine as Isami Jishi. The plant I have has not yet bloomed well, but it has shown much beauty.

MR. B. H. FARR. This Japanese peony has not yet been put out by them unless it has been this year. Mr. VanLeeuwen told me it was an outstanding variety, when I protested its name and said I thought nothing but a peony of the very finest should be given Mr. Farr's name. It seems that Mr. Farr imported this from Japan among a lot of seedlings. One of the Van Leeuwen's was working with Mr. Farr at the time and sent the root to Holland. They thought it so fine that they gave it Mr. Farr's name. It bloomed for me this year, but I cut the best one and sent it to Des Moines, where I do not think it was even noticed. It is a mixture of shades of pink, quite unusual and maybe good. I shall have to see a good bloom before I shall say more.

MR. THIM. Described as the biggest thing in singles out. Yet with me I should say that so far Helen has beaten it out. It is a very dark pink, but I should not class it as red. It has fine stiff stems and is very large.

NOBILITY. This flower has not yet bloomed on well established plants. It seemed this year to have a rather bomb type bloom and was of a pleasing color, but it should have more petalage if it is going to be of the best. And maybe it will have on better plants. Its behavior next year will be watched with interest.

RED BEAUTY. I have had this several years, but so far have not had an opportunity to observe its behavior in bloom. It comes up very late and as happened to so many of the late risers this year, it did not make good stems or blooms. It seems to be quite dwarf.

VAN DER MEER

This man as I hear is a farmer who takes quite an interest in peony growing and has raised some very promising seedlings. The two following were put out as being especially vigorous growers, of remarkably large size. Mr. Van Leeuwen told me he had a twelve-inch bloom from a root set the fall before on one of them.

MISS ECKHART. This is described as a good medium pink I think. With me it made a bloom that was almost identical with Peter Pan, which is of a nice pink of medium shade. It has grown very well, but nothing more than many others. Its bloom was not larger with me than that of many others.

ZUS BRAUN, a white with pink dots. This has done better in the way of big stems and big blooms than Miss Eckhart. However, I may say that Kelway's Glorious, Alice Harding, Gloriana, and possibly others were of just as large size and vigorous growth on one-year roots. I believe both of these peonies will be good peonies of fine and sturdy growth and excellent flowers, but they do not yet promise to be ahead of everything else in the garden.

RUYS

This firm, also called the Royal Tottenham Nurseries, has put out three red peonies called after aviators of fame. From their descriptions I was led to believe they were singles, but as they bloomed for me this year, they were semi-doubles, or at least two were; I have no recollection of the third. They seemed to be nice ordinary red peonies. The names follow:

FOKKER. See remarks above.

LUNDBORG. Not our Lindbergh. See above.

VAN DONGEN. First named NOBILE, but changed when Nobile fell from grace. See above.

GERMANY; GOOS AND KOENEMANN

This firm has put out a number of peonies, not one of which is bad and most of which are far above the average in beauty and quality. I shall be much disappointed if these later ones do not live up to the others. So far as I have been able to see they certainly bid fair to do so. They are apparently not well distributed over here, as I note only Mr. Gumtz offering them. Little comment can be made as I have not yet seen them to advantage.

AMALIA. Rose colored. A good grower.

BINGEN. Silvery rose. Also a nice plant.

HEINBURG. Cherry red. Increased well.

HOHENBUCHAU. Rose.

MAINZ. This seems to be a fine white flower, large and well put up.

WALDAFFA. White tinted lilac.

REMBRANDT. Red single of good color.

ENGLAND—KELWAY

As we all know, Kelway has probably introduced more peonies than any three or four other growers combined. Their introduc-

tions have I expect run quite to if not beyond the thousand mark. If they had named only fifteen or twenty-five of them they would have done better, for these are today the finest peonies in the world in their class. No peonies can outclass Baroness Schroeder, James Kelway, Kelway's Glorious, Kelway's Queen, Phyllis Kelway, Lady Alexandra Duff, King of England, White Lady, Pride of Langport, English Elegance, and some others. So we look to their new ones as at least offering something to be desired, and if the same proportion is followed as in their former work we should find about one in every fifteen good. I shall mention only a few that have appealed to me as being worthy. They, as we all know, can never be counted on to send anything true to name and my experience has been unhappy in several instances.

BLOODSTONE. This is a very beautiful red single peony that promises to be of the best.

GODDESS. A rose pink Jap of excellent bearing and fine color. Mr. Bonnewitz thinks it the best of its class. Maybe he is right. I have certainly seen no better rose colored Jap.

JAMES WILLIAM KELWAY. This is a very tall, erect, flower of very large size. It is a purple pink with many stamens showing. It should never be confused with James Kelway. It is nothing like it. Many people like a peony of this style and color, and with them it will be a great favorite, but with many others it will only be one to be avoided.

LADY ASTOR. This is a small white Jap of rather dwarf growth that is quite charming even as the famous lady for whom it is named is likewise.

MRS. JAMES KELWAY. This was introduced as the largest white peony ever put out. The root sent me was not of the best. For two years it made no attempt to bloom. Then it tried to make blooms on a plant that was of good upright growth and excellent carriage, but was so late that it was with difficulty that I could get a fair idea of it. It seemed to be full rose type of a pale pink that faded white and should have been of good size. It was exhibited in Washington in 1929 and was rather small. Mr. Sam Carpenter imported a root the same year, and whether any one else did I do not know, but I seriously doubt it. Mr. Carpenter advised me that his flower was a bigger and better Kelway's Glorious. This seemed to be a fine thing if that was so. Since Mr. Carpenter's death this statement has been verified by others in his garden and who have had it from him. I bought a small root last fall from them and this spring it opened a small bloom that looked and smelled like Glorious. I have intimated that their plant may have been only Glorious, but they are rather emphatic in saying that it is very different. Time will tell. A friend of mine also has both my stock and Carpenter's to compare.

SANTORB. A very big glowing red that blooms very early, rather dwarf. Single.

SIR HENRY STONE. A distinctive Jap of lilac pink with red tips, the center a perfect half sphere. Deserves a good place.

ENGLISH ELEGANCE. This seems to me to be destined to stand at the very top of the pink singles. It is not so tall, but of fine carriage and a great peony.

MRS. RICHARDS. This is lavender pink of a pale shade that has made blooms of fine size and quality and a plant that is of the best habit. It is very double.